

Remarks:

Applicants (hereinafter, Applicant) hereby request reconsideration of the application.

Claims 1-10 are now in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 10 has been added. No new matter is believed to have been added. Claim 11 has been canceled.

In the second paragraph on page 2 of the Office action, claims 1-8 and [11] have been rejected as being fully anticipated by Gazda et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,249,978) (hereinafter, "Gazda") under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

In the last paragraph on page 3 of the Office action, claims 1-4, 6, 8, 9 and [11] have been rejected as being fully anticipated by Peterson (U.S. Pat. No. 5,342,221) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

The rejections have been noted and the claims have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claim 1 calls for an electronic component, comprising:

*a semiconductor unit having:*

*a housing having a first side face; and*

*at least two terminal pins protruding out of said first side face of said housing;*

said housing having an isolation barrier formed between said two terminal pins.

Accordingly, in the *present invention*, the component has a housing, and at least two terminal pins protrude out from a first side face of the housing. The housing has an isolation barrier formed between the two terminal pins. The isolation barrier extends the leakage path between two neighboring terminal pins, which consequently increases the dielectric strength.

The Gazda reference discloses a connector including a housing (defining a cavity) having a central portion opening to the exterior of the housing. A terminal with a stab portion extending from a base is slidably mounted in the cavity (with the stab portion extending through the opening). The stab

portion is biased to a central position in the opening by a spring.

Further, a multi-terminal connector (for coupling with connectors mounted on bus bars) is provided. The multiple terminal connector is capable of self-alignment and blind plugging. The connector allows flexibility in the positioning of connectors on a chassis, since large amounts of misalignments can be tolerated. The springs bias the terminal stabs towards a central position while allowing lateral-float to accommodate misalignment.

The Peterson reference discloses a *keying system* for use with at least four sets or pairs of mating connectors (with a male and female connector in each set). The connectors have similar rectangular elongated configurations. Each set of connectors is adapted for mounting at least one pair of interengaging terminals, with the numbers of pairs of terminals in any given set of connectors being different from that of any other set of connectors.

The number of mating terminals in the four sets of mating connectors increase in a predetermined progression. The connectors in each respective set have complementary interengaging mating portions. The respective mating portions

of the sets of connectors are constructed so that any connector (in any given set) cannot mate with a connector of any other set of connectors.

Further, the sets of connectors are adapted for mounting the pairs of interengaging terminals placed in at least one row on their respective connectors. The connectors have increasing lengths (as a function of the number of pairs of terminals on the respective connectors). The terminals are mounted within projecting silos in one of the connectors in each set; the other connector in each respective set includes receptacles for receiving the silos. The complementary interengaging mating portions of the connectors are provided by the silos and receptacles.

In addition, rectangular or square silos and receptacles are placed in at least one row (on the respective connectors). One side of the rectangular silos and receptacles is oriented in a common line along the length of the respective connectors.

Accordingly, Applicant points out that the references do not pertain to an electronic device having a semiconductor unit/component, but to plug connectors for connecting different terminals. In order to clarify the *present invention*, the claims have been amended to recite --a

semiconductor unit-- . Thus (in contrast to the references), *the semiconductor unit (component) of the present invention* has a housing, and at least two terminal pins protrude out from a first side face of the housing. The housing has an isolation barrier formed between the two terminal pins, and the isolation barrier extends the leakage path between two neighboring terminal pins.

Clearly, the references do not show "a semiconductor unit having: a housing having a first side face; and at least two terminal pins protruding out of said first side face of said housing; said housing having an isolation barrier formed between said two terminal pins", as recited in claim 1 of the instant application (emphasis added). Thus, neither can the specific combination of the aforementioned limitations be shown. Claim 10 recites similar limitations.

In other words, the features including the limitations "a semiconductor unit having: a housing having a first side face; and at least two terminal pins protruding out of said first side face of said housing; said housing having an isolation barrier formed between said two terminal pins", as recited in claim 1, attain the present invention's objectives and are not taught or suggested by the references, whether taken alone or in any combination (emphasis added).

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 1 and 10. Claims 1 and 10 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and since all of the dependent claims are ultimately dependent on claim 1, they are believed to be patentable as well.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-10 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone counsel so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

Petition for extension is herewith made. The extension fee for response within a period of one month pursuant to Section 1.136(a) in the amount of \$110.00 in accordance with Section 1.17 is enclosed herewith.

Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and

Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

ven R. Ponugoti

For Applicant

Ven R. Ponugoti

Reg. No.51,052

VRP:cgm

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Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.

Post Office Box 2480

Hollywood, FL 33022-2480

Tel: (954) 925-1100

Fax: (954) 925-1101



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Claim 1 (amended). An electronic component, comprising:

a semiconductor unit having:

a housing having a first side face; and

at least two terminal pins protruding out of said first  
side face of said housing;

said housing having an isolation barrier formed between  
said two terminal pins.